

## **Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center Records**

L310, V242

1911-1979, bulk 1937-1965

3 mss. boxes, 2 vols.

Rare Books and Manuscripts Division  
Indiana State Library

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### **Organizational Note:**

The American Settlement was a social service agency established in 1923 after two earlier agencies, Foreign House and Presbyterian (Cosmopolitan) Chapel were merged. It was founded to "Americanize" the foreign community of Indianapolis and aid them with the U.S. government's citizenship examinations. It provided clubs, classes, and other activities. In 1939 the agency moved to West Morris Street and was renamed the Southwest Social Center. In 1957 the agency built new buildings along West Morris Street. The agency was again renamed and became the Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center in 1961 after its longtime director, Mary Rigg. Ms. Rigg was director from 1924 to 1961.

#### *Source:*

"American Settlement" in Encyclopedia of Indianapolis. Bloomington, IN: Indiana UP, 1994.

### **Scope and Content Note:**

The collection includes reports, financial records, and other items from the American Settlement/Southwest Social Center/Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center, dating from 1911-1979, with the bulk of the material dating 1937-1965. There are two series: Administrative Records and Financial Records. The materials document the clubs and classes offered by the center, include some annual reports and newsletters, and also provide financial records on the building of the "new center" in 1961. The "Assorted" file at the end of the collection includes a constitution, clippings, and other miscellaneous items. Also included at the end is a file on the early history of West Indianapolis which contains an oral history and a short history of the area.

### **Series Descriptions:**

*Administrative Records*

Includes narrative reports from many of the clubs and classes offered by the American Settlement during the late 1930s and early 1940s, as well as attendance sheets. Also included are annual reports, inventory lists of canned goods, nursery school applications from 1934, and newsletters.

### *Financial Records*

The bulk of this series documents the "new center," built in 1961 with funds donated by the Rotary Club. Included are invoices, receipts, bills, and bank statements, dating from 1956-1965. Also included are three record books and financial records from 1942-1943.

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### **Box and Folder Listing:**

#### Box 1.

##### Folder

1. Group Reports—Assorted Boys Clubs, 1939
2. Group Reports—Basketball Girls, 1937-1938
3. Group Reports—Double Eagle Club, 1941-1942
4. Group Reports—Eagles Small Boys Club, 1937-1938
5. Group Reports—Flying Eagles Boys Club, School #46, 1938-1939
6. Group Reports—Game Night, 1938
7. Group Reports—Girl Scouts, Troop #67, 1937-1938
8. Group Reports—Girls Gym, 1938-1939
9. Group Reports—Girls Senior Club, 1939-1941
10. Group Reports—Happy-go-lucky Club, School #49, 1938-1942
11. Group Reports—Hawks Club, School #49, 1938-1939
12. Group Reports—High School Gym Class, 1937-1938
13. Group Reports—Indians Club, School #49, 1938-1939
14. Group Reports—Junior Art 1937-1938
15. Group Reports—Mothers Club, 1938-1939
16. Group Reports—Sewing Class, 1938-1941
17. Group Reports—Shop Group, 1937-1938
18. Group Reports—Small Boys Gym Group, 1937-1938
19. Group Reports—Small Girls Gym, 1937-1938
20. Group Reports—Social Dancing, 1938
21. Group Reports—Story Hour , 1937-1938
22. Group Reports—Tap Dancing, 1938
23. Group Reports—Variety Club, School #49, 1938-1942
24. Group Reports—Overview, 1939
25. Reports, 1937-1947
26. Inventory Lists, 1943
27. Nursery School Applications, 1934
28. Newsletter, 1936-1938
29. Newsletter, 1940-1952

30. Financial Records, 1942-1943

Box 2.

Folder

1. Financial Records—New Building, 1956-1957
2. Financial Records—New Building, 1958-1959
3. Financial Records, 1962
4. Financial Records, 1962-1964
5. Financial Records—Bank Statements, 1962-1965
6. Financial Records—Bank Statements, 1965
7. Assorted , 1925-1970
8. History of West Indianapolis, 1979
9. Southwest Social Center Accounts, 1949-1950
10. Southwest Social Center Accounts, 1951-1953

Box 3.

Folder

1. Southwest Social Center Accounts, 1954-1955
2. Southwest Social Center Accounts, 1955
3. Cash book, undated

Volumes.

- 242-1 Account and record book, 1911-1920  
242-2 Sunday School Lists and Accounts, 1914-1941
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**Collection Information:**

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|-----------------------------|---|
| <i>Size of Collection:</i>  | 3 manuscript boxes, 2 volumes   |
| <i>Collection Dates:</i>    | 1911-1979   |
| <i>Provenance:</i>          | Some items donated by the Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center, November 1979  |
| <i>Access:</i>              | This collection is open for research.   |
| <i>Restrictions:</i>        | None  |
| <i>Reproduction Rights:</i> | Permission to reproduce, exhibit, or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Manuscript Section, Indiana State Library. Possession of a reproduction from an Indiana State Library collection does not constitute permission for use. |
| <i>Language</i>             | Materials are entirely in English   |
| <i>Alternate Formats:</i>   | None  |
| <i>Related Holdings:</i>    | L134, Mary Rigg Papers  |
| <i>Notes:</i>               |   |

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